



Event: Historic Resources and Museum Advisory Board (HRMAB) Meeting

Details: Wednesday, August 23, 2017, 6:00PM; Mordecai Visitor Center

Attendance:

HRM Board: Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, Fred Belledin, Barbara Freedman, Joe Mobley, Al Brothers, Ed Morris, Amy Simes, Treva Jones, Nick Fountain, Clare Bass, Holmes Harden

Staff: Troy Burton, Stacie Perryman, Ainsley Powell, Marvin Howell, Megan Raby
Kathryn Neuhart, Celeste Sherer

Community Members: Bill Jones

Excused Absent:

HRM Advisory Board: Tom Ward, Steve Rabin

HRM Staff: Ernest Dollar, Joshua Ingersoll, Douglas Porter, Scott Mott, Jenna Kostka, Scott Payne

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Public Comment, Ed Morris:

HRMAB Chair, Ed Morris, called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and opened the floor for public comment.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Morris asked the Board to review the draft minutes from Wednesday, July 26, 2017. Ms. Bass motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Fountain seconded, and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

3. HRM Program Report:

HRM Administration: Troy Burton

The part-time gardener at Mordecai has been replaced with a full-time gardener. The new gardener supports to the downtown enterprise group which includes Tucker House, Moore Square, Pope House Museum and Mordecai Historic Park.

Moore Square Project: The construction contract is finalized and a request to award the contract will go to City Council on September 5th agenda.

There were several value engineering choices required due to the bids coming back higher than project budget. Notable reductions are two grove rooms instead of three with the center room being eliminated. The size of the square plaza was reduced from 365 linear feet to 354 linear feet. The water feature was diminished from 25 water jet valves to 21 valves.

HRM Museum Section: Megan Raby

July attendance at COR Museum exceeded 5,000 visitors setting a new monthly attendance record for the museum.

The Friends of the COR Museum held their Annual Meeting on July 19th and it was well attended. The Friends featured a program from cartoonist Dwane Powell speaking about his life and work that helped drive attendance.

The Dwane Powell exhibit “You Really Stuck It to Me Today” continues to run at the COR Museum and staff have received wonderful reviews and feedback thus far.

August has been a month of training and preparing for the Fall.

A new exhibit, “*America’s War: Individual Experience and Collective Memory*”, opens September 1st. Wake Tech Community College curated the exhibit in conjunction with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibit focuses on individual perspectives of war and will run for three months.

On September 2nd, the Pope House will once again offer the special living history event, “*The Doctor Is In*”. Interpreters will be on site in period dress. There will also be musicians performing as well as artifacts on display from the Pope House Museum Collection.

The COR Museum will host an Educator’s Night on September 18th. The museum will be open late for educators to explore the museum as well as speak to museum staff about educational programs.

HRM Historic Sites Section: Celeste Sherer

Mordecai Historic Park hosted 2,938 visitors in July.

735 visitors took the one-hour docent led program which compared favorably to last year’s 590 visitors.

The “*Living History Saturday*” program on July 1st drew 130 visitors.

Mordecai staff supported the July 4th event at the State Capitol. There were about 120 people that stopped by the Mordecai table. The crowd was estimated at 1000.

The “*Escape to Freedom*” program is scheduled to run on September 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd. Staff is excited to partner again with the MOJOAA Performing Arts Company.

There will be a volunteer interest meeting on September 20th for new and old faces to attend.

HRM Historic Attractions: Marvin Howell

July attendance did increase in certain areas. Staff attributed that to mild weather.

There were fewer rentals but more guests coming out.

The “*Summer Concert Series*” ended and was again well received. Estimated attendance at Dix and Fletcher were over 300 for each venue.

One concert was cancelled due to weather.

On September 15th there will be a “*Family Game Night*”.

The process to fill the vacant Historic Attractions Operation Manager is ongoing. The last face to face interview is tomorrow. Staff hopes to have a finalist identified by the end of the month.

Chair’s Report: No report

4. Old Business:

HRM Plan: Troy Burton

The Design Review Team conducted interviews with two firms; Lord Cultural Resources and HR&A.

The DRT hopes to identify a finalist by end of week. The team consists of board members Ms. Freedman and Ms. Bass as well as staff Troy Burton, Kathryn Neuhart and Douglas Porter.

5. New Business:

City of Raleigh Comprehensive Plan Update: John Anagnost

The Raleigh 2030 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2009. It is typically reviewed every five years or so to be updated as needed.

They are performing due diligence by soliciting comment from the public, boards and commissions, and other departments within the city.

They sent a report to City Council addressing specific topic areas that needed revisions. City Council endorsed revisions based on this scope.

They are now close to going back to City Council.

There are ten key areas authorized for revision: Graphic Redesign, Key Policies, Height and Transitions, Wake County Transit Plan, Resilience, Affordable Housing, Water Supplies, Local Food System, Downtown Elements, and Area Plan.

Within these topics, John felt like there were eleven elements potentially related to HRM Program. Five specific elements were PROR Open Space, Urban Design, Historic Preservation, Arts & Culture, and Area Plans.

There is a web page on the City of Raleigh website devoted to the Comprehensive Plan.

The final draft of the plan will be published within the next two weeks and then a 30 day public comment process will begin.

6. Committee Reports

- a) **Collections Committee, Clare Bass:** The committee did not meet in August. They look forward to their meeting on Monday September 18th at the COR museum.
- b) **Community Engagement Committee, Jannette Coleridge-Taylor:** Ms. Coleridge-Taylor attended the Raleigh Sister City annual meeting this month. RSC discussed the potential of Japanese city, Bunkyo-ku, becoming a Sister City. RSC currently has an exhibit at the Cameron Village Library. There are currently there are five Sister Cities. The Oakwood Garden Club has been asked to help decorate the Pope House Museum for the holidays.
- c) **Nominating Committee, Barbara Freedman:** The committee submitted three nominees for consideration; Sam Mordecai, Esther Hall, and Alicia McGill. Current board members Al Brothers, Nick Fountain, and Treva Jones' terms are expiring in September. These three members cannot stand for another appointment, having served three consecutive terms.

The Committee recommends Mr. Mordecai and Ms. Hall's nominations be sent immediately to City Council for consideration. The Committee recommends Ms. McGill's nomination to be forwarded to Council for consideration if she agrees to stand for nomination. The Committee expects to receive direction from Ms. McGill shortly. Mr. Brothers moved to approve; the recommendation coming from committee did not require a second. The motion passed unanimously.
- d) **Program/Exhibits Committee, Fred Belledin:** The committee did not meet in August.
- e) **Executive Committee, Ed Morris:** The committee created the agenda, reviewed minutes, discussed the HRM plan, as well as the city Comprehensive Plan.

7. Friends of the Museums, Barbara Freedman:

The COR Museum Friend Board welcomed a new board chair, Douglas Noreen. The Board also held their annual meeting and set Time Warp event for date Saturday, April 21st with the 70s as the theme.

The current Secretary of the Friends Board is Dan Howe. He is considering an offer to become the contract program manager for the Friends. He would resign his position from the Friends Board if that took place.

8. PRGAB Report, Amy Simes:

The PRGAB Board did not meet in August.

Currently they are working on PRGAB work plans and the Barwell Road Park Master Plan.

The next PRGAB meeting is scheduled for September 21st.

10. Upcoming Events	Date	Time	Location
Summer in the Park Concert Series:	7/2- Triangle Taiko 7/16- Raleigh Jazz Orchestra 7/30- GrassStreet	6pm	Dix Park's Harvey Hill
Summer in the Park Concert Series:	7/9- Capital Transit 7/23- Thelonius	6pm	Fletcher Park
Living History: "From Poison to Passion: The complicated history of the Tomato"	7/1	10am-3pm	Mordecai
Story time with Sammy	7/4	10:30am	COR Museum
Wake County Board of Elections Registering	7/4	12pm-6pm	COR Museum
A Night at the City of Raleigh Museum	7/15 ; 7/22	4pm; 5:45pm; 7:30pm	COR Museum

11. Committee Meeting Reminders	Date	Time	Location
Collections Committee	9/18	3pm	TBD
Community Engagement	7/12	5:15pm	Mordecai Visitor Center
Nominating Committee	TBD		TBD
Program and Exhibit Committee	7/11	5pm	COR Museum
Executive Committee	7/21	8:30am	Tucker House
Monthly HRMAB Meeting	7/26	6pm	Mordecai Visitor Center

** All meetings of HRMAB Committees are open to the public.*

12. Adjournment, Mr. Morris:

With no further business, Mr. Morris adjourned the meeting at 7:29pm.